

REMARKS

The Examiner in the Official Action has rejected claims 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 11 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Abe et al. (US 6,499,822) for the reasons set forth in the Official Action.

Applicants have amended the claims to more clearly define the present invention. The present invention is directed to a digital print and method for making the same whereby information can be stored thereon and later retrieved that is directly related to a specific area or portion of the image. Thus, when the image is scanned, information such as who was in the image and what a particular item is can be ascertained. Quite often when an image is reviewed at a later time, specifics as to who was in the image or what a particular item is, have long been forgotten. The present invention provides a method for identifying an item/individual within the image easily at a later point in time.

Claim 1 has been amended to clearly set forth that it is directed to a method for storing and retrieving information stored on a digital print. Claim 1 has also been amended to specifically set forth a scanning step whereby the information and coordinate systems are used for obtaining the information stored on the print and for associating with a particular content of the image. This is not taught or suggested by the prior art.

Claim 7 is the second independent claim which is directed to a print, has also been amended to state that the additional data and coordinate systems can be read by a scanning operation whereby information regarding content of the image can be obtained by scanning the print.

The Examiner has rejected independent claims 1 and 7 and the remaining dependent claims as being anticipated by Abe et al. for the reasons set forth therein.

It is respectfully submitted that the Abe et al. reference does not teach or suggest the invention as taught and claimed by applicants. In the Abe et al. reference, the coordinate system is used for determining information regarding expansion or contraction properties of fabrics so that printing operations of prints can be accurately placed on the media irrespective of the distortions that may be present in the fabric. In the present invention there is provided data that is recorded on the image that relates to the image content. This is not taught or suggested in the prior art. The only teaching or suggestion of providing additional

data is the providing of these tiles/boundary lines for locating distortions in fabrics and the providing of bar codes. The barcodes are used to determine the position of the grid (tile lines). The barcodes are not used in any way to provide information regarding the content of the image. Quite the contrary, it teaches away from the present invention as the bar codes are used to detect the absolute positions of the respective tiles on the recorded medium. See column 15, lines 46-47. Thus, the Abe et al. reference can be distinguished on this one point alone. Furthermore, the grids are either woven in or printed at some point and time wherein at least a second printing operation occurs later on for completion of the image. There is no teaching or suggestion of scanning the image or obtaining information that is used with respect to the content of the image that has been provided thereon. Quite the contrary, the Abe et al. reference is directed to prior art totally apart and distinct from the present invention. It is directed to image forming techniques on textiles and the like for providing compensation for distortions that may be provided in the material. This is quite apart and distinct from producing a digital print having an image content to which the present invention is directed and the providing of additional data on the print which contains information that is used to provide information with some aspect of the image.

There is no motivation or teaching or suggestion of being able to use the teachings of the Abe et al. reference which is directed to and are totally different from that of the present invention to arrive at the invention as set forth by the present invention.

In view of the foregoing applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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